Sector	Amount
Social Services	682.44
General Services	61.59
TOTAL:	2574.74

Accelerating growth in economy

1740. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the recent research report that in 13 years, China's economy would be nearly three times larger than India's;

(b) in what way we can manage to match with the neighbour's growth in economy; and

(c) whether Government would review the existing policies and programmes and plan new policies which would accelerate the growth in economy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) Planning Commission is not aware of any such research report, that in 13 years China's economy would be nearly three times larger than India's.

(b) In the last decade or so India has managed to close the gap between the rate of growth GDP of China and India. As per the World Development Indicators 2004 of the World Bank, the gap was 4.6 per cent per annum during 1980—90 and this declined to 3.9 per cent per annum during 1990—2002.

(c) Government would review the existing policies and programmes and plan new policies to accelerate the growth in economy while carrying out the Mid-Term Appraisal of the Tenth Five Year Plan, which is scheduled during the current year.

Provision of subsidy for helicopter services in Himachal Pradesh

†1741. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

requested *vide* his letter dated the 8th July, 2003 to provide subsidy to the State on the lines of North-Eastern States for helicopter services being run by the State Government to save the people of Lahol-Spiti, Kinnor and Pangi-Bharmor tehsils of Chamba districts from natural calamity and dreadful diseases who lose contact with rest of the country due to heavy snowfall for almost six months;

(b) if so, the details of any action taken thereon; and

(c) if not, by when the decision would be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V RAJASEKHARAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The D.O. letter dated 8th July, 2003 of CM, Himachal Pradesh referred in the Question has been received in the Planning Commission.

(b) and (c) Response of the above D.O. letter on the subject has already been sent *vide* Planning Commission's D.O. letter No. PC(P)2/ 44/02/-HP/DCH/11/7486 dated August 13, 2003.

Special package for Jharkhand

†1742. SHRI AJAYMAROO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are in receipt of any proposal from the Chief Minister of Jharkhand regarding special package to the State;

(b) if so, the Government's response thereto; and

(c) whether Government propose to send any special Central team for the assessment thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Allocation of funds by the Centre for the State Plan is made through existing programmes and schemes under the Five Year Plan.

(c) No, Sir.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.